

PROCLAMATION **LIMB LOSS AWARENESS MONTH** APRIL 2019

WHEREAS, there are approximately 2.1 million Americans living with limb loss/difference; over 500 Americans lose a limb every day; approximately 1,000 children are born each year in the United States with congenital limb difference; and

WHEREAS, diabetes, peripheral vascular disease and trauma are cited as the leading causes of amputation with approximately 99 forecast of cases being contributed to them; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that behaviors such as diabetes management, properly treating wounds and observing safety practices can be effective in preventing amputations; and

WHEREAS, the number of Americans living with limb loss/difference is expected to rise to over 3.6 million by 2050 unless a major public awareness campaign is launched and key prevention initiatives are put in place; and

WHEREAS, access to appropriate prosthetic care is vital to enable individuals to reach their full potential, live independently and live well for people living with limb loss; and

WHEREAS, the Amputee Coalition provides education, support and advocacy through the National Limb Loss Resource Center for the benefit of persons with limb loss/difference, their families and health care providers throughout the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 2019, **LIMB LOSS AWARENESS MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State